ACTIVITY REPORT

Better Farming. Better Food. Better Health

July- September

ANTI-COUNTERFEIT **CAMPAIGN**

Rice Herbicide Campaign - Mwea Irrigation Scheme



Operation **Jaza Miti**



Q3 Activity Report

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A farmer receiving guidance on what to look for on the product label



A visitor using the vitrual reality googles with learning modules for farmers



Visitors at our booth learning about the various innovations we offer to farmers

3rd FINAS Summit

30th June - 2nd July

What does it take to turn agricultural innovation into lasting impact? At the 2026 Financing Agri-Food Systems Sustainably (FINAS) Summit, the conversation centred on a critical piece of the puzzle: financing. Bringing together policymakers, financiers, development partners, and agribusiness leaders, the summit explored ways to bridge funding gaps, strengthen partnerships, and build a more sustainable financial architecture for Africa's food systems.

Under the theme "Towards Sustainable Financial Architecture for Africa's Food Systems," discussions highlighted the need to connect investment with practical solutions that strengthen agricultural resilience and support long-term growth. With Kenya's Ksh1 trillion National Agrifood Systems Investment Plan for 2026–2030 launched at the summit, the focus was clear: turning commitments into investments that deliver tangible results.

For aak-GROW/CropLife Kenya, sustainable agricultural transformation goes beyond financing innovation. It means ensuring that responsible crop protection, Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), and effective stewardship remain central to how we grow, protect, and secure our food.



Because a resilient food system is built not only on the capital invested, but on the knowledge, practices, and partnerships that translate that investment into safer food, empowered farmers, and sustainable agriculture ●

Stewardship Mashinani Assistant, Jackline Njoki giving a one-minute pitch about aak-GROW during the summit

16th July

Capacity Building for **Farmer Cooperatives**

Farmer cooperatives are powerful channels for driving sustainable agriculture, bringing farmers together to access knowledge, services, and solutions that strengthen their livelihoods. Through Stewardship Mashinani and with the support of Dan Church Aid Kenya, we engaged horticultural farmer cooperatives at Kiambariki, North Kinangop, to promote Good Agricultural Practices and responsible crop protection.

The engagement highlighted the value of Spray Service Providers (SSPs) in ensuring safe, professional spray application, connecting farmers with providers in their local areas. Farmers were also encouraged to use established Empty Pesticide Container (EPC) collection centres for responsible container disposal.

By leveraging existing cooperative structures, we can reach more farmers, strengthen shared learning, and make sustainable practices easier to adopt. We thank Dan Church Aid Kenya for facilitating this engagement and supporting efforts towards safer, more sustainable farming ●



Visitors at our booth learning about the various innovations we offer to farmers



Visitors at our booth learning about the various innovations we offer to farmers



Visitors at our booth learning about the various innovations we offer to farmers

13th - 17th July

Rice Herbicide Campaign - Mwea Irrigation Scheme



aak-GROW Field Operative, James Nyoro, demonstrating the proper way to wear PPE

Rice is more than a staple on Kenyan tables; it is a vital part of our food security and agricultural economy. With domestic production still falling short of demand, strengthening local rice farming is key to supporting farmer livelihoods, reducing reliance on imports, and building a more resilient food system.

Joined by our partners, Mazao na Afya, the Hazardous Producer Responsibility Organization of Kenya, and our member Bancella East Africa Limited, we engaged farmers across the Mwea Irrigation Scheme ahead of the main planting season, together with technical agronomists from the Mwea Rice Growers Multipurpose Cooperative Society.

The engagement focused on responsible crop protection, from safe handling and Personal Protective Equipment use to label compliance, identifying counterfeit products, and the safe disposal of empty containers.

As one of Kenya's key rice-producing regions, Mwea has a significant role to play in closing the national supply gap. Equipping farmers with practical stewardship knowledge helps protect their health, safeguard the environment, and support the sustainable production of the rice our country depends on ●



Stewardship Mashinani Officer, Velma Wekesa, addressing farmers on responsible use as they approach the planting season



Mwea rice farmers present for the session



Wambugu Farmer Field Day

24th - 25th July



A farmer inquiring on the ISO Certified PPE



Farmers keenly learning on the different parts of a label.

Nyeri's Wambugu Agricultural Training Centre once again became a hub for agricultural learning and innovation during the 2026 Wambugu Farmers' Field Day. The event brought together farmers and industry stakeholders to explore technologies and practices that can improve productivity, strengthen livelihoods, and build resilience.

Our team engaged the farmers on the importance of wearing appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and using certified Spray Service Providers (SSPs) for safer, more effective pest control. Discussions around drone technology also highlighted farmers' willingness to adopt precision agriculture which when properly implemented, can reduce cost on inputs, improve yield and safeguard the environment.

Ultimately, innovation delivers its greatest value when farmers can apply it confidently and responsibly. By connecting farmers with practical knowledge and emerging solutions, platforms like Wambugu Field Day help strengthen stewardship, support sustainable production, and empower farmers to make informed decisions for their farms and livelihoods ●







Young learners eager to learn about Good Agricultural Practices

Listening to Farmers, **Driving Safer Practices: Farmers Baraza**

31st July



Farmers expressing their concerns during an interactive Q&A session



A demonstartion on how to properly dispose empty pesticide containers



The farmers from Lengenet Sub county receiving an Empty Pesticide Container Disposal Bag

aak-GROW held a farmer baraza in Lengenet, Rongai Subcounty, bringing tomato and vegetable farmers together to address the challenges affecting the adoption of Good Agricultural Practices (GAP). The discussions centred on farmers' experiences with illegal crop protection products, pest resistance, soil health, climate change, and the safe disposal of empty pesticide containers.

The engagement provided practical guidance on responsible crop protection, including observing Pre-Harvest Intervals (PHIs) and Re-Entry Intervals (REIs), complying with national regulations, and handling products safely from purchase to disposal. To support proper container management, aak-GROW also provided the community with an Empty Pesticide Container (EPC) collection bag.

By putting farmers' voices at the centre of stewardship, we can better address the challenges they face and equip them to make informed decisions. This is how we strengthen responsible farming, protect communities and the environment, and support safer food production and trade ●



Stewardship mashinani Officer Velma Wekesa informing farmers on the importance of using Spray Service Provider (SSP)

3rd – 7th August

Subject Matter Specialist Training Meru County

Sustainable farming begins with access to the right knowledge, at the right time. At Kaguru Agricultural Training Centre, aak-GROW facilitated a week-long Subject Matter Specialist Training for Meru County's agricultural frontline staff, organised by the Pest Control Products Board (PCPB) and the County Government of Meru. The session was officially opened by the Meru County CECM for Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, and Cooperative Development in Meru County, Hon. Jenaro Guantai.

Through this Training of Trainers (ToT) approach, frontline officers gain practical skills in Integrated Pest Management, responsible crop protection, label interpretation, sprayer calibration, PPE use, observance of Pre-Harvest Intervals, and safe disposal of empty pesticide containers.

These officers will carry this expertise into the communities they serve, bringing technical guidance closer to farmers and helping translate Good Agricultural Practices into everyday decisions on the farm.

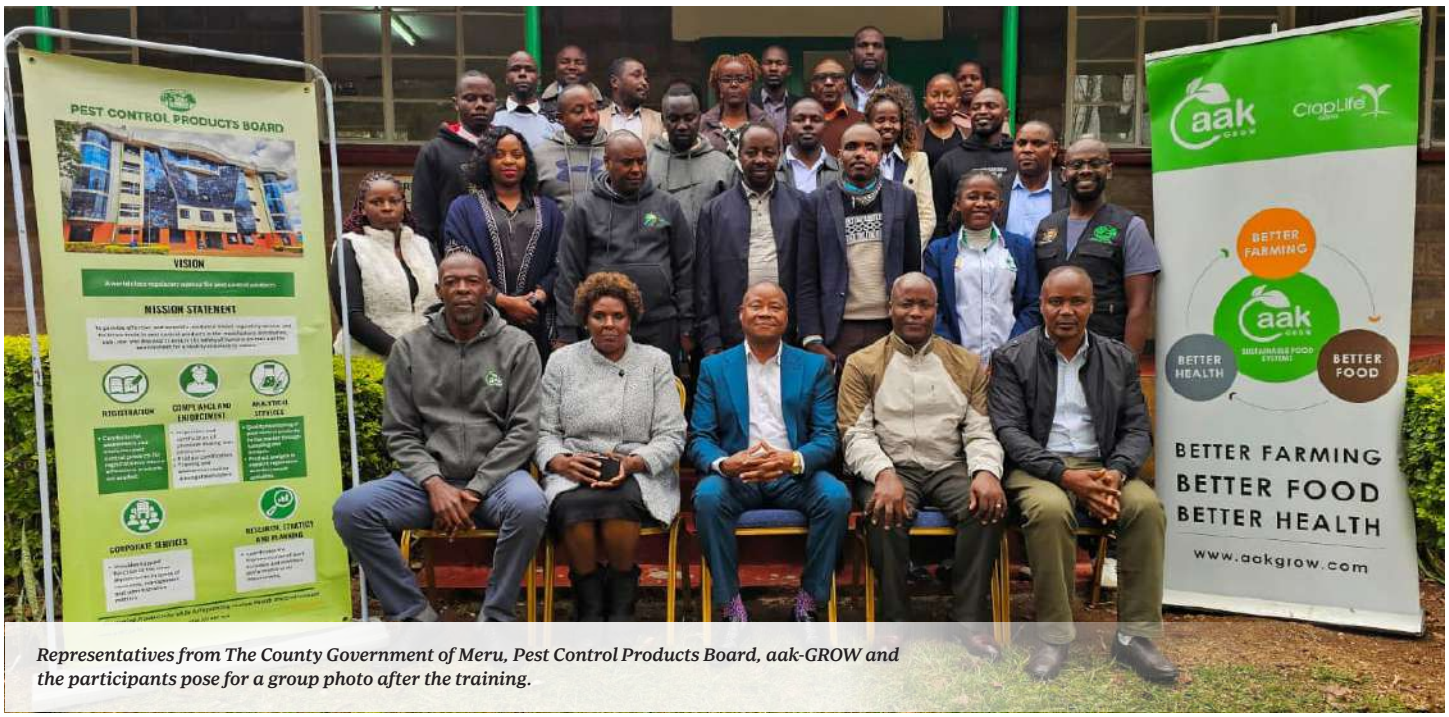
Investing in local expertise creates a lasting chain of knowledge that extends beyond the training room. Better-informed frontline officers mean better-supported farmers, safer food production, stronger compliance with food safety standards, and more sustainable livelihoods ●



The Meru County CECM for Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, and Cooperative Development in Meru County, Hon. Jenaro Guantai officially opening a ceremony



An officer from the Pest Control Products Board driving a session on illegal pest control products



Representatives from The County Government of Meru, Pest Control Products Board, aak-GROW and the participants pose for a group photo after the training.

4th August

GHS Training **Technical Experts**



Technical Experts from aak-GROW member companies pose for a group photo after the training session

As an industry, building technical expertise is essential to strengthening chemical safety and regulatory compliance across the crop protection industry.

aak-GROW conducted a two-day Globally Harmonized System (GHS) for Chemical Classification and Labelling training for technical experts from our member companies. The training focused on strengthening participants' capacity in chemical classification, labelling, and effective GHS implementation.

Officially opening the training, was aak-GROW CEO, Mr. Joel Mutai, who emphasised the need to continuously build technical expertise and expand the pool of GHS specialists within the industry. Strengthening this internal capacity will enable our members better navigate evolving regulatory requirements and support its effective implementation.

Through targeted capacity building, we continue to advance responsible stewardship, chemical safety, and compliance across the crop protection value chain ●





Chief Executive Officer aak-GROW, Mr. Joel Mutai giving his opening remarks

ANTI-COUNTERFEIT CAMPAIGN

11th – 14th August



Boda boda operators from Wundanyi Market joining the entertainment section of the roadshow.

The campaign focused on raising awareness of the dangers of illegal products, promoting the use of registered pest control products and strengthening public understanding of responsible pest management practices.

Bidhaa Halali, Mavuno Salama!

Illegal and counterfeit pest control products pose a serious threat to farmer livelihoods, food safety, human health and the environment. In response, aak-GROW led the 2026 Anti-Counterfeit Campaign Roadshow, in partnership with the Pest Control Products Board (PCPB), engaging farming communities across Kajiado and Taita Taveta counties.

Through market visits, farmer engagements, and community sensitization, the campaign equipped farmers with practical knowledge on identifying illegal products, verifying product registration, reading and following label instructions, and practising responsible crop protection.

From Oloitoktok to Taveta, Mwatate and Wundanyi, the campaign reinforced a clear message to farming communities: buy pest control products only from licensed dealers, reject suspicious or counterfeit products, and report suspected illegal products to the relevant authorities.

The fight against counterfeit products goes beyond protecting individual farms. It safeguards farmer investments, supports food safety and security, preserves the environment, and helps sustain Kenya's access to international markets. By strengthening collaboration between regulators, industry, dealers, and farmers, we continue to advance a culture of compliance and responsible stewardship for sustainable agriculture ●



CEO PCPB, Mr. Fredrick Muchiri and CEO aak-GROW, Mr. Joel Mutai during the first leg of the roadshow at Oloitoktok Market



Crowds gather to hear the message on imortance of using genuine pest control products at the Modern Mwatate Market

AGITECH GRAND EXPO – Oloitoktok

13th August

The Mazao na Afya Agitech Grand Expo brought farmers together in Oloitoktok, Kajiado County, for a day of learning, innovation, and knowledge exchange aimed at improving agricultural productivity.

aak-GROW engaged farmers on responsible use measures for pest control products, from reading and following crop protection product labels to identifying illegal products, wearing appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), and safely disposing of empty pesticide containers. These practices are essential to protecting farmer health, safeguarding the environment, and supporting quality produce.

Farmer empowerment begins with access to practical knowledge that translates into better decisions on the farm. We are grateful to our partner Mazao na Afya for creating this platform to advance agricultural learning and sustainable farming practices ●







Farmers being taken through how to identify genuine pest control products

Subject Matter Specialist (SMS) Training – Uasin Gishu County

17th -21st August



Mr. Eric Kamau, Compliance and Enforcement Officer at PCPB guiding trainers on how to identify illegal pest control products



Mr. Benson Ngigi, Products Stewardship Manager, aak-GROW taking trainers through a session on knapsack calibration

Building local expertise is key to ensuring farmers have access to the knowledge they need to adopt safer and more sustainable farming practices. At Chebororwa Agricultural Training Centre, aak-GROW facilitated the ongoing Subject Matter Specialist (SMS) training in Uasin Gishu County, jointly organised by the Pest Control Products Board (PCPB) and the County Government of Uasin Gishu.

Through a Training of Trainers (ToT) approach, frontline agricultural officers from various sub-counties are gaining practical knowledge on Good Agricultural Practices, with emphasis on the safe use and handling of crop protection products. They will take these skills into farming communities, extending access to technical guidance and helping farmers make informed decisions.

By strengthening the capacity of frontline officers, we create a lasting chain of knowledge that supports responsible crop protection, safer food production, and the protection of human health and the environment



Dr. Paul Ngaruiya, General Manager for Research, Strategy, Planning, and Performance Management at PCPB addressing the trainers



21 August

aak-GROW secretariat and Kenya Forest Service rangers planting the ceremonial tree.

Operation **Jaza Miti**

Environmental sustainability requires more than commitments; it calls for deliberate, collective action. As part of Operation Jaza Miti, aak-GROW joined the Kenya Forest Service and the Likia Community Forest Association at Mau Forest, Likia, to contribute to forest restoration through tree planting.



To our delight, the young trees we had planted during our previous visit were thriving, proof that consistent effort yields visible results. This was our third-quarter environmental initiative, following another 1,000-tree planting in May. Beyond the symbolism, this act underscores our belief that environmental conservation is inseparable from agriculture.

Healthy forests play a vital role in sustaining rainfall patterns, protecting biodiversity and supporting the ecosystems on which agriculture depends. Our time at Likia reinforced an important message: forest conservation is an investment in sustainable agriculture, resilient livelihoods and future food security.

Every seedling planted is a step towards restoring our natural ecosystems and safeguarding the resources that farming communities depend on for generations to come ●





Chilldren from the Likia Community heartily planting trees with members of the aak-GROW secretariat



Likia Community Forest Association planting their tree.

9th September



Village Based Advisors from Molo, Kuresoi North & South and Njoro present for the engagement

Sensitizing Village Based Advisors

Community-level expertise is essential to making sustainable farming practices accessible to more farmers. Through Stewardship Mashinani and in partnership with the National Potato Council of Kenya (NPCK), we engaged Village Based Advisors (VBAs) in Elburgon, Nakuru County, drawing participants from Molo, Kuresoi North, Kuresoi South, and Njoro.

As trusted links between agricultural knowledge and farming communities, VBAs play a vital role in farmer empowerment. The engagement focused on the responsible use and handling of pest control products, equipping the advisors with knowledge to share with farmer groups in their respective areas.

By strengthening these local networks, we extend the reach of stewardship beyond individual engagements, helping more farmers adopt Good Agricultural Practices and make informed decisions for safer, more sustainable production ●



Stewardship Mashinani Officer, Velma Wekesa addressing the VBAs



A proper PPE adornment demonstration

9th – 11th September

Availing **Biological Solutions**

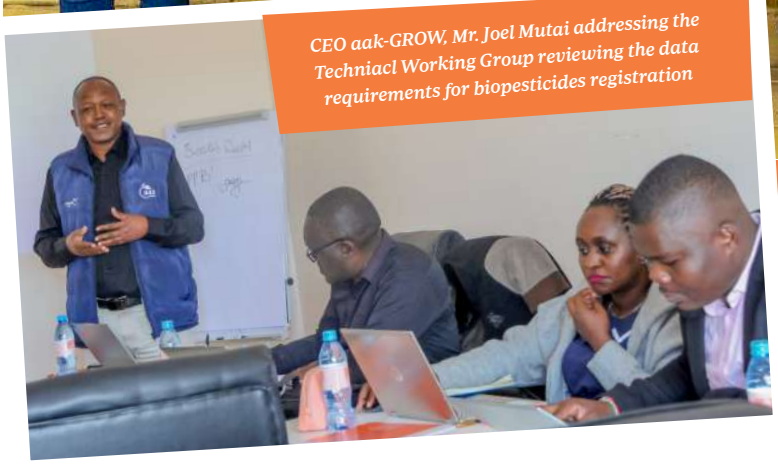
Expanding access to safe, effective and sustainable pest control solutions is key to strengthening agricultural productivity and resilience. Biopesticides offer additional options for farmers, making clear and efficient registration processes essential to their availability in the market.

The Biopesticides Technical Working Group, comprising IBMA Kenya, aak-GROW/CropLife Kenya, and the Pest Control Products Board (PCPB), reviewed data requirements for biopesticide registration. The discussions focused on the macrobials registration form within the Online Pesticides Registration System (OPRS), resulting in clearer guidance to help applicants navigate the process.

By supporting clearer registration pathways, the Working Group is contributing to the timely availability of biopesticide solutions and a broader range of pest management options for farmers. The review will continue with other registration forms in subsequent sessions ●



Members of the Technical Working group pose for a photo after the session



CEO aak-GROW, Mr. Joel Mutai addressing the Techniacl Working Group reviewing the data requirements for biopesticides registration

Naivasha **Hortifair**

18th -19th September

If you've ever wondered where Kenya's horticultural future takes shape, Naivasha Hortifair offers a glimpse. A meeting point for ideas, innovation, and opportunity, the 2026 fair brought together growers, exporters, technology providers, and industry leaders from across the horticultural value chain.

Now in its 23rd edition, the fair welcomed over 300 exhibitors united by a shared vision for the growth of African horticulture. Beyond the vibrant displays, conversations centred on sustainable production, smarter technologies, and responsible crop protection.

Kenya's horticultural exports generated Ksh143.78 billion in 2025, with flowers accounting for Ksh81.3 billion of that value. These figures reflect an industry whose success depends not only on what we grow, but how responsibly and efficiently we grow it.

Under this year's theme, "Be Part of Africa's Growth," The Naivasha Hortifair reinforced a simple truth: every innovation adopted, every partnership forged, and every step towards sustainable farming helps strengthen Kenya's position in global markets ●



aak-GROW secretariat pose with Ms. Ngarama, a mixed farmer from the Longonot area



Visitors at the aak-GROW booth



Products Stewardship Manager, Mr. Benson Ngigi addressing stakeholders during an interactive session.

Extended Producer Responsibility Implementation – **Meru County**

21–23 September

Sustainable waste management requires coordinated action across the value chain. Through Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), collaboration between industry, regulators, and county governments can strengthen the safe collection and management of empty pesticide containers while protecting communities and the environment.





Representatives from the County Government of Meru, HAPROK and aak-GROW pose for a group photo.

aak-GROW and the Hazardous Waste Producer Responsibility Organisation of Kenya (HAPROK) engaged the Meru County Government, represented by CECM for Agriculture Hon. Jenaro Gatangugi and Director of Environment Mr. Angelo Gitonga, alongside NEMA Meru County Office, represented by Mr. Gabriel Guyo. The discussions advanced plans for a county-specific EPR policy, broader stakeholder participation, and farmer sensitisation on responsible container disposal.

A key priority was the timely evacuation of collected containers ahead of anticipated El Niño rains to reduce the risk of flooding and environmental contamination. By strengthening partnerships and local waste management systems, we are advancing practical EPR solutions that support safer communities and a cleaner environment ●



Waste Management Officer, Saida Issa engaging CECM for Agriculture, Hon. Jenaro Gatangugi, Director of Environment, on the safe mamnagement of empty pesticide containers

29th September

The **FARM Project**



Responsible management of agricultural plastics is vital to protecting soil health, water resources, and farming communities. Through Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), stakeholders across the value chain can strengthen the collection, recycling, and safe disposal of agriplastics.

aak-GROW met with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) to discuss the way forward for agriplastics management under the FARM Project, with EPR implementation as a key priority. The initiative is piloting solutions in Kirinyaga, Bungoma, and Nakuru counties, bringing together government agencies, Producer Responsibility Organisations, and agrifood value chain stakeholders to improve the management of agricultural plastics throughout their lifecycle.

With plans to scale the initiative nationally and eventually across East Africa, collaboration remains essential to developing practical, sustainable solutions. We appreciate FAO's engagement as we work towards stronger EPR systems and a cleaner agricultural environment ●

Connecting With Farmers **– Kwitu FM**

30th September

Empowering farmers with practical, reliable information is key to advancing responsible pest management and sustainable agriculture. During our engagement on Kwitu FM, we highlighted the importance of informed decisions and adopting Good Agricultural Practices to protect farmers, consumers, and the environment.

Community radio provides a valuable platform for taking agricultural knowledge closer to farmers, helping translate stewardship messages into everyday practices.

We thank Kwitu FM for providing a platform for these important conversations and remain committed to strengthening community awareness for safer, healthier, and more sustainable agriculture ●





Pest Management Association of Kenya (PEMAK)

The Pest Management Association of Kenya (PEMAK) has been at the forefront, championing for the improvement of pest control measures, providing high-quality standards of professional services all while minimizing risks to users, consumers, and the environment.

Their commitment resulted in the completion of two successful trainings the first being the three-day Public Health Pest Management Training at the Nakuru Agricultural Training Centre from the 12th to 14th August.

The training was organized to equip Pest Control Operators (PCOs) with current knowledge, skills, and best practices in line with the Pest Control Products Board (PCPB) pest control regulations and industry standards. The training aimed to professionalize the sector and strengthen compliance. A total of 23 PCOs from Nakuru County and neighbouring counties participated representing both small and medium-sized pest control companies.

On the 21st of September they facilitated the Grain Storage and Fumigation Training at the Reformed Church of East Africa in Eldoret, was aimed at enhancing the skills of grain storage handlers and fumigators enabling them effectively managing grain storage losses resulting from pest outbreaks. The training is pivotal in promoting healthy grain food storage and safeguarding human health and the environment.

We are proud of the work PEMAK is doing in advancing safe and responsible use in the pest control sector in Kenya ●



Stewardship Officer, Velma Wekesa taking the Pest Control Operators through a session for the Public Health Pest Management Training



CEO aak-GROW, Mr. Joel Mutai giving his closing remarks for the Public Health Pest Management Training



PEMAK Chairman, Mr. Evans Mutuva addressing the Pest Control Operators during the Public Health Pest Management Training



Group breakout sessions during the Grain Storage & Fumigation Training

aak GROW

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